@All This is an important reminder from me. Please read thoroughly. -Galaxian...

scarletdragon3016

Corresponding with some events that have happened over the course of forum history, I would like to pinpoint one exact cause of misunderstandings that I have observed, and a certain type of conflict that I hope will be clear in name by the time my words end. I hope, with all sincerity, that none of you feel as if I am pinpointing you, patronizing you, or anything of the like. I am not, and that could not be further from my real, intended wishes.

1. The forums are the forums, and the forums are online.

Speech is the window to the soul...and like any other window, it's perspective. I'm sure most of you are now familiar by my "philosophy" of sorts...that everything is perspective. Words, too, are perspective. I am sure you all have seen this play out in real life. No matter it be friends, family, strangers, classmates...they are all capable of hurting you mentally (and physically, but that's not the point here). They say something they didn't know you would mind, or something you take personally yet they do not understand.

We are all human (or I'm just presuming myself). We have emotions, and these emotions are reactions to what we see, hear, feel...the things that happen in life, lest that be in actions or speech. Our reactions to the same words, tone, action, et cetera, will probably be entirely different than another. Even those of us whom have siblings, or even twins, we have distinct interpretations of anything. Part of these interpretations may be seen as "assumptions", which is basically what they are, leading on to the next prompt...

2. Assumptions are human nature--yet are not always correct.

We all interpret things different ways. Our personal background, personality, experience, etc., determine this. What is friendly and casual to one person may be seen as hostile to another. Likewise, as the above example demonstrates, words lead to assumptions. However, as in the case above...can it be said that the first person, whom viewed it as friendly, was wrong? Or, contrary to that, the second was wrong? Could they both be wrong? Possibly. Then...could they both be right? Possibly. The meaning of the words spoken lie with the speaker and it is up to the listener to interpret that, yet that same interpreatation, distinct from others', cannot be seen as 'correct' in a sense.

3. Just because (you think) someone hurt you does not give you permission to hurt him/her/them back.

Tying in with the above points--one, that the forums are online and interpretation of speech is perspective, and that same interpretation of speech may be incorrect, or correct. So, one "problem", or as one could potentially call it, in any place, whether in real life or on the forums, is conflict arising from misunderstanding of speech. I'm going to stop using real life examples, so...on the forums, the WoFMB. As most of us know it, it is our base, and our home. What I am saying here is not only to just address current situations, but also connect situations applicable to this anywhere and be able to apply it to the future as well.

When one forumer says something, most of us know it. We potentially proofread, we send...or we don't. But either way, it might lead to something we had not expected, because there is no true way to gauge the opposite side's reactions. I remember reading on one thread (*waves to person who posted it*) that they mentioned sending a post like treading on a thin line...like any time it could topple over. Yet, unaccording to the context of

that specific thread, I believe that any line, any action, is like treading on a thin line. We know (or maybe don't know) what's underneath us, but we don't know everything that could send us across the precarious edge.

So, when someone says something, unless it's obviously and directly intended to hurt us, such as racial slurs, insults, profane language, rudeness...do we actually know their true intent?

My answer would be no.

I am saying that, as with real life, words can hurt. Especially on the forums, where we can't see the other's face, hear the other's tone...we assume their tone, the way they're speaking, and their intent. That is the beauty of imagination--yet also the deficits, because when there's no limit, we can go too far.

Back on topic, when someone on the forums says something that we *feel* to be hurting to us, even on *purpose*...why do we not wait a few more seconds, and look more back on what type of person they actually are? Behind every screen there is a person, with feelings just as our own. We all unintentionally insult, or even hurt, people. So this can be true on either side.

Firstly, we can try our best to prevent anything from being misinterpreted in the first place. We can look over our posts.

Then, of course, is when *we*, with our personal perspectives, fail to catch it. Then the message is misinterpreted.

On the listener's side, the side that was in charge of listening and interpreting, we can think a bit more on what the message would have otherwise meant, and not just convict someone for saying/doing/intending something he/she/they may or may not have intended to do in the first place. We could try to talk it out, and ask about it. If it turns out it's the first, then what's following doesn't apply.

If it's the second, or has any chance of being the second, we shouldn't just assume something happened, someone meant a message in a certain way, et cetera. Give the benefit of doubt for others.

Because, if we just claim them to be guilty, how can we know what actually happened? Not only do we leave an imprint on ourselves and our feelings, but also the other, especially if he/she/they never intended for their message to ever be interpreted that way. Especially if others see it and only see it from the point of view of the prosecuting side.

This is a call for bystanders as well. Please do not just immediately assume one side tells the entire story. There is always another part to it.

This thread isn't a call to action. It's a call for consideration. So, please, consider. Next time someone seems to indirectly say something harming to you, please think about it: Did they actually mean it?

As with the title, even if he/she/they did actually mean it, it is not an excuse to react in a similar manner to them. One would be surprised how well ignoring works for certain situations. And since this is the forums...if you're absolutely positive he/she/they meant it in that way, why not just report the post and leave it at that? The answer is always undetermined, at the end.

Thank you for listening to this (at this time) midnight speech.

-Galaxian Explosion-

☆ 19

Ɠ
₳
Ł
₳
єχρłσsıσn
ł

Est. June 2018
Stars: 4,967

God of Loyalty, Life, & Cosmos

We never know all the chances we lost
Until we lose them

~I guess it's almost time to say...
"Sayonara"~

@All This is an important reminder from me. Please read thoroughly. -Galaxian...

darkwizard957

Galaxian, you amaze me.

0

Wizard
➢Him/He
➢Christian
➢Saxophone
♦Homeschooled
♦Forum sisters~ Fantasy, Glamour, Key
♦Forum brothers~Paradox, Seaquake
♦Triplets~Fallon and Pluto
☾ Co-creator of LLaK: /348431 ☽
Meep the Yeep with Repicheep!~Me

@All This is an important reminder from me. Please read thoroughly. -Galaxian...

scarletdragon3016

-Kaboom-, I'm sorry...

0

₳
Ł
₳
εχρℓσsισи
ł
₳
₦

Est. June 2018
Stars: 4,967

God of Loyalty, Life, & Cosmos

We never know all the chances we lost
Until we lose them

~I guess it's almost time to say...
"Sayonara"~

@All This is an important reminder from me. Please read thoroughly. -Galaxian...

sapphirespy55

Wow! This is really well done, Galaxian!

0

)Ocean/Nemo({she/her/they/them}
LGBTQIA+ - Nerd
January 2019 - March 2019
Stars- 862
Forum Sisters: Legacy and Kitsune
“Always do good. This will gratify some people,
and astonish the rest.” -Mark Twain

DON’T PANIC
I’ll be back

@All This is an important reminder from me. Please read thoroughly. -Galaxian...

dragonfire3007

bump

0

⇢Prism/Kaleidoscope⇠
⇢She/Her/Fangirl⇠
⇢Star Count ~ 804⇠
⇢5/5/15~Until the very end⇠
⇢You're Talented & Amazing⇠
⇢And Don't Let Anyone Tell You Otherwise⇠
⇢And Always Chase Your Dreams⇠

@All This is an important reminder from me. Please read thoroughly. -Galaxian...

catink63

Great job! Thank you!

0

grendel
(mostly inactive until the forums get moved to home base)
(plato was a great philosopher. he said that **we should be kind to everyone, because everyone is fighting a difficult battle.**)

@All This is an important reminder from me. Please read thoroughly. -Galaxian...

tigerdragon6181

Great advice, Galaxian!

0

-=+Deisma+=-

She | her | SandWing

Forum sibs: Zane, Prism, Jacquelyn, Glamour & Nimarfira

"We are not doing get help."

"We don't want to change,

We just want to change everything!"

A Talon in Three Worlds: /353086

SCHOLASTIC
open a world of possible

PRIVACY POLICY • Terms of Use • TM ® & © 1996-2019 Scholastic Inc. All Rights Reserved.